

June 2nd, 1933

Mr. W. J. Hookway, Clerk,
Board of Supervisors,
Navajo County,
Holbrook, Arizona.

Dear Sir:

This is in response to your oral request for an opinion of the Attorney General upon a certain question which I will restate as follows:

"Assuming that, according to the assessed valuation in the year 1931, a county was of the third class and its officers were being paid accordingly, and assuming further that the assessed valuation in the year 1932 caused said county to change to one of the fourth class, would such change affect the salaries of county officers elected in November, 1932, and now holding office?"

Section 2793, R. C. A. 1928, provides in part as follows:

"****Whenever the assessed valuation of the taxable property of a county changes to a higher or lower class, the class of the county shall likewise change. The compensation shall be determined by the assessment roll of the year next preceding the election or appointment of such officer."

In the instant case, the class change occurred in the Spring of 1932. This was in the fiscal year next preceding the 1932 election. Therefore, I am of the opinion that the officers who were elected in November, 1932, should be paid, throughout their respective terms, the salaries provided for officers of fourth class counties.

Hoping that this adequately answers your question,
I remain

Very truly yours,

Attorney General

Assistant Attorney General.

PHB:H

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